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Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route  
National Historical Trail

**December 2015**

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## Find Your Revolutionary War Park

Each month we will be highlighting one of the many Revolutionary War parks that share the story of the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route NHT. See the [Places to Go](#) section of the website to find your Revolutionary War park.



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## This Month's Issue

### Find Your Revolutionary War Park

Old Barracks

### Highlights of the Month

New York: 2016  
Heritage  
Development  
Grants

Maryland Trails  
Coordination

Delaware Trail  
Coordination

New Jersey Trail  
Coordination

Pennsylvania  
Trail  
Coordination

## Old Barracks Museum

The Old Barracks was built in 1758 to house British soldiers during the French and Indian War. At the outbreak of the American Revolution, American soldiers used it until the fall of 1776 when the British Army occupied much of northern New Jersey. In December, 1776, Hessian troops occupying Trenton used the barracks until they were attacked by the Continental Army at first Battle of Trenton on December 26, 1776. Washington's victory forced the surrender of most of Hessian garrison. After the Battle of Trenton, the Barracks became an army hospital as many soldiers and supplies passed through Trenton until the end of the war. The last soldiers in the Barracks may have been sick and wounded soldiers from the siege of Yorktown in 1781.



**Additional  
Information**

Gloucester  
County, Virginia

The Museum of  
the American  
Revolution

The American  
Revolution  
Institute of the  
Society of the  
Cincinnati

Plan Ahead for  
the 250th  
Anniversary of  
the American  
Revolution

Read about the  
Revolution



More than  
20,000 National  
Park Service  
employees help

The Old Barracks in Trenton, New Jersey

*NPS photo*

## Highlights of the Month

### Washington's Crossing



George Washington's daring 1776 Christmas Day crossing of the Delaware River and defeat of the Hessians in Trenton is considered a turning point in the Revolutionary War. Two reenactments were held in December continuing this Bucks County PA tradition featuring several hundred reenactors clad in Continental military dress and George Washington himself. For more colonial-era activities, the Old Barracks Museum in

care for America's National Parks, Heritage Areas, Trails, Wild & Scenic Rivers, and other affiliated, related areas and programs. They work with communities across the nation to preserve natural resources and our shared cultural heritage and to create close-to-home recreational and educational opportunities.



Join the National Park Service and the National Park Foundation as we kick off a nationwide campaign to celebrate the National Park Service Centennial.

Trenton hosts reenactments of the Battle of Trenton and other celebrations during its annual Patriots Week festivities.

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## New York: 2016 Heritage Development Grants

The Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area (HRVNHA) was established by Congress in 1996 and is funded, in part, through the National Park Service -Department of the Interior. The mission of the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area program is to recognize, preserve, protect and interpret the nationally significant cultural and natural resources of the Hudson River Valley for the benefit of the Nation. The HRVNHA established this grant program to provide seed money to organizations for the purposes of programming, interpretation and marketing that support the mutual goals of the HRVNHA and applicants. A total of \$60,000 is available through this grant program.

The DEADLINE: 4:00 PM, Friday, February 11, 2016. Projects should resonate with the following interpretive themes outlined in the HRVNHA Management Plan:

- Freedom and Dignity (Colonial Period, Revolutionary War, Social and Political Issues, Great Americans);
- Nature and Culture (Landscapes and Gardens, Architecture, Art and Artists, Hudson River School, Parks and Environment); and
- Corridor of Commerce (Transportation, Industry and Commerce).



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200 Chestnut  
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Philadelphia, PA  
19106

The 2016 Heritage Development Grant Program will give priority to projects that embrace diversity and those that target underserved populations. A 1 to 1 local match is required, and may be provided in the form of in-kind or monetary contributions. Highest priority will be given to projects or programs that feature a designated [Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area Heritage Site](#).

A copy of the grant guidelines and application may be downloaded here:

[2016 NHA Heritage Development Grant Guidelines \(PDF\)](#)

[2016 NHA Heritage Development Grant Application \(Fillable PDF\)](#)

[List of Designated Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area Sites \(PDF\)](#)

Applications may also be requested by calling (518) 473-3835, or by emailing the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area [hrvg@hudsongreenway.ny.gov](mailto:hrvg@hudsongreenway.ny.gov).

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## **Maryland Trails Coordination**

Robert Reyes of W3R-US and MD, Robert Selig, Stacy Madalena of Eastern National discussed the Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Route NHT and the need for printed information about the route. Robert Reyes submitted a proposal to Eastern National for developing an NHT unigrid brochure that will cover Maryland and Virginia and highlight the

Yorktown Campaign in the Chesapeake region.

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## **Delaware Trail Coordination**

Kim Burdick, W3R-US/DE organized a meeting in Wilmington, Delaware to discuss Delaware's portion of the NHT. The trail in Delaware was laid out and marked in time for the 225th anniversary of the Yorktown Campaign in 2006. Now that the trail has federal designation, Delaware ready to refresh their plan and join their efforts with those of neighboring states. Mike Hahn, AICP DelDOT Planning and Byways Coordinator, is looking into signage issue along the route and exploring links with the State's Byways web site.

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## **New Jersey Trail Coordination**

Forrest "Woody" Burgener of W3R-NJ gave a talk at the "Renaissance at Raritan Valley Men's Club" (New Brunswick area) on the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route. Mr. Chip Mills, Bridgewater Township engineer, is working with Christopher Solan, scout troop 84 in Somerville, N.J., who is doing a sensational job marking out Rochambeau's route through Bridgewater as part of his "eagle scout" work.

Please see the information on the NJ Preservation conference to be held June 8-9, 2016 at Seton Hall University in South Orange, NJ. Tom Ross, Superintendent of Morristown and Thomas Edison National Historic Parks, is organizing a session



on the NPS Centennial and engaging new audiences and welcomes your suggestions, ideas and participation. Read the full Call for Sessions here:  
<http://www.njpreservationconference.org/pdf/callforsessions.pdf>

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## **Pennsylvania Trail Coordination**

Ursula Reed, Chair of W3R-US and Vice President of W3R-PA and Joe DiBello met with Silas Chamberlain, Executive Director, and Laura Catalano of the Schuylkill River Valley National and State Heritage Area to discuss cross promotion and planning opportunities on November 23. W3R-PA is developing a Pennsylvania brochure using the NPS format and there are plans to mark the NHT route. The Heritage Area will help organize a coordination meeting with state officials to discuss and coordinate trails plans.

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## **Additional Information**

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## **Gloucester County, Virginia**

The Gloucester Historical Society is a non-profit organization organizing a grant application to the American Battlefield Protection Program. The project, which will include multiple stakeholders, will identify and evaluate revolutionary war

resources related to the siege at Yorktown for their preservation and interpretation potential. This grant will enable an essential first step that will organize efforts to commemorate this important event.

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## **The Museum of the American Revolution**

On November 3, 2015, Ursula Reed, Chair of W3R-US and Joe DiBello met with Zee Ann Mason, Senior Vice President for Marketing and Communications for the Museum of the American Revolution Center to discuss opportunities for sharing information about the NHT and future partnership opportunities.

The Museum of the American Revolution publishes *Read the Revolution*, a curated collection of excerpts from exciting, thought provoking books about the American Revolution. *Read the Revolution* is published biweekly to inspire learning about the history and its ongoing relevance. [Go here to browse through the archive and subscribe.](#)

The museum is expected to open in 2017 in Philadelphia and will tell the complete story of the American Revolution. To learn more about the museum's progress and plans, visit the [website](#) and [Facebook](#) pages.

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## **The American Revolution Institute of the Society of the Cincinnati**

The American Revolution Institute promotes knowledge and appreciation of the achievement of American independence, fulfilling the aim of the Continental Army officers who founded the Society of the Cincinnati in 1783 to perpetuate the memory of that vast event. The Institute supports advanced study, presents exhibitions and other public programs, advocates preservation, and provides resources to teachers and students to enrich understanding of our War for Independence and the principles of the men and women who secured the liberty of the American people. Among the January Public Programs is a free talk on Thursday, January 28 at 6 p.m. by John R. Maass. He is a historian at the U.S. Army Center of Military History, and will discuss and sign copies of his book, *The Road to Yorktown: Jefferson, Lafayette and the British Invasion of Virginia*. Visit the Institute's website [here](#) and sign up for their newsletter to get monthly updates.

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## **Plan Ahead for the 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution**

Although many events led up to the American Revolution, the fighting started in 1775 at Lexington and Concord and lasted through 1783 with the signing of the Treaty of Paris. Based on what NPS has learned from experiences of commemorations of the Civil War, War of 1812, Lewis and Clark, Centennial events, etc. we should be able to identify some effective ways to mark

the Rev War 250th. The NHT can play a convening role because the Yorktown campaign was the culminating event of the American Revolution and the NHT connects the many revolutionary war parks, heritage areas, national trails and NPS programs in the very urban east. In addition to the obvious NPS participants, we seek to engage active partners such as the Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution, the Society of the Cincinnati, Museum of the American Revolution and W3R-US, and reach out to schools, libraries, arts groups, etc. A group called Revolution 250 has already started up in Boston. We propose developing an interpretive plan for the rev War 250th that would include a timeline of the relevant anniversaries; identify commemoration opportunities; brainstorm new ideas for the commemoration and identify roles and responsibilities for future action. Please contact Joe DiBello if you like to participate and help convene a discussion that will connect the revolutionary war parks, heritage areas and related programs in anticipation of the NPS Centennial, Call to Action and the Commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the American War for Independence.

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## Read About the Revolution

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